PLAIN, DIRECT AND POINTED.

Congress is Asked to Increase the Tariff Immediately-The Condition of the Revenue Demands Prompt

The following message from President McKinley was sent to Congress upon its opening :

To the Congress of the United States:
Regretting the necessity which has required me to call you together, I feel that your assembling in extraordinary session is indispensable because of the condition in which we find the revenues of the government. It is considered of the government. It is conceded that its current expenditures are greater than its receipts and that such a condition has existed for now more than three years. With unlimited means at our command, we are presenting the remarkable spectacle of increasing our public debt by borrowing money to meet the ordinary outlays incident upon even an economical and prudent administration of the government. An examination of the subject discloses this fact in every detail and leads inevitably to the conclusion that the condition of the revenue which allows it is unjustifiable and should be corrected.

We flud by the reports of the Secre-

tary of the Treasury that the revenues for the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1892, from all sources were \$425,868,260. 22, and the expenditures for all purposes were \$415,953,806 56, leaving an excess of receipts over expenditures of \$9.914,453.66. During that fiscal year \$40.570.

have exceeded the expenditures. The receipts of the government from all sources, during the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1894, were \$372,802,498, and its expenditures \$442,605,758, leaving a deficit, the first since the recumption of the process of \$60,803,808, Not the standard of the suffrage will lessen to the standard of the suffrage will lessen to the standard of the suffrage will lessen to the suffrage will less the suffage will less the suffrage will less the suffrage will less the suffrage will less the suffage will less specie payments, of \$69,803,260. Notspecie payments, of \$69,803,260. Not-withstanding there was a decrease of \$16,769,128 in the ordinary expenses of the government as compared with the previous fiscal year, its income was still not sufficient to provide for its daily necessities, and the gold reserve in the treasury for the redemption of greenbacks was drawn upon to meet them. But this did not suffice, and the government then resorted to loans to replenish the reserve. In February, 1894,\$50,000,000 in bonds

were issued, and in November following a second issue of \$50,000,000 was deemed necessary. The sum of \$117,7195 was realized by the sale of these bonds, but the reserve was steadily decreased until, on February 8, 1895, a third sale of \$62,315,400 in bonds for \$65,116,244 was announced to Con-

The receipts of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, were \$390,373 203, and the expenditures \$433,178,426, showing a deficit of \$42,-

A further loan of \$100,000,000 was negotiat d by the government in Febru-ary, 1896, the sale netting \$111,166,246, some way of avenging her wrongs." and swelling the aggregate of bonds issued within three years to \$262.315, 400. For the fiscal year ending June 30 1896, the revenues of the government from all sources amounted to \$409.475, 408, while its expenditures were \$434,678,654, or an excess of expenditures over receipts of \$25,203,245. other words, the total receipts for the three fiscal years, ending June 30, 1896, were insufficient by \$137,811,729 to meet the total expenditures.

Nor has this condition since improvfiscal year, the receipts of the government, exclusive of postal revenues, were \$157,507.603, and its expenditures exclusive of postal service \$195,410,000, or an excess of expenditures over reor an excess of expenditures over re-ceipts of \$37,902,396. In January of this year, the receipts exclusive of postal revenues were \$24,316,994 and the expenditures exclusive of postal service \$30,269,389, a deficit of \$5,952,-395 for the month. In February of this year the receipts exclusive of postal revenues were \$24,400,997 and the expenditures, exclusive of postal service \$28,796,056, a deficit of \$4,395,-059; or a total deficiency of \$186,061,-580 for the three years and eight months ending on March 1, 1897. Not only are we without a surplus in the treasury, but with an increase in the public debt there has been a corres-ponding increase in the annual interest charge from \$22,893,883 in 1892, the lowest of any year since 1862, to \$34,-387,297 in 1896, or an increase of \$11,-

It may be urged that even if the revenues of the government had been sufficient to meet all its ordinary expenses during the past three years, the gold reserve would still have been inflicient to meet the demands upon it, and that bonds would necessarily have been issued for its repletion. Be this as it may, it is clearly manifest, without denying or affirming the correctness of such a conclusion, that the debt would have been decreased in at least the amount of the deficiency, and

busi ness confidence immeasurably strengthened throughout the country. congress should promptly correct the existing conditions. Ample revenues must be supplied not only for the ordinary expenses of the government, but for prompt payment of liberal pensions and the liquidation of the principal and interest of the public debt. In raising revenues, duties should be so levied upon foreign products as to preserve the home market, so far as possible, to our own producers; to revive sible, to our own producers; to revive and increase manufactures; to relieve and encourage agriculture; to increase our domestic and foreign commerce; to aid and develop mining and build-ing, and to render to labor in every field of useful occupation the liberal waces and adequate rewards to which skill and industry are justly entitled. The necessity of the passage of a tariff law which shall provide ample revenue, need not be further urged. The imperative demand of the hour is the prov.pt enactment of such a measure, and to this object I earnestly recommend that Congress shall make every endeavor. Before other business is transacted, let us first provide sufficient revenue to faithfully administer the government without the contracting of further debt, or the continued disturbance of our finances.

(Signed) WM. MCKINLEY, President of the United States. -An exchange says:

—An exchange says: "Rerosene will make teakettles shine as bright as new." "Yes," remarked another paper, "kerosene will do wonders; it will make a house shine so it can be seen for miles, but it is dreadfully destructive to paint."

BILL ARP IS AT WORK.

His Wife Keeps Him Busy to Help His Rheumatism-A Lecture or Woman's Rights and Wrongs.

I like to work when I feel like it, but my wife likes for me to work when she feels like it, and so between the two I have to work nearly all the time. Yesterday I was grunting around with rheumatism, but she took a notion that it was a good day to take the verandah trellis down and clean away all the old dead vines, and thought it would help me to get warmed up by exercise—and it did. She knows—she has heard me try to play off on grippe and rheumatics before—you can't fool the woman you have been living with forty-eight years—so I got the ladder and climbed up to the top and cut away the tangled web and trimmed the running rosevines and the wisteria and Virginia creeper and then tore away the old canes and cleaned up all the trash and burned it. It was a big in for the tearpads his fits feet least to away the old cames and cleaned up all the trash and burned it. It was a big job for the verandah is fifty feet long and I had to move the old rickety ladder a dozzen times—several times. I got sorter dizzy and liked to have fallen, but my folks don't believe I am as old as I am, and they never will believe it until I break my arm, or my leg, or my neck. Then I reckon they will be sorry.

A man never grows old to his own family; no man is a hero to his own sorvant. The servant knows him too well, and just so my wife won't admit

servant. The servant knows him too well, and just so my wife won't admit that I am too old to be useful, and she keeps me trotting around. She gives me precepts and examples, for she is never idle—makes up the bed, cleans up her room, puts out the washing and distributes it when it comes in, mends my statistical and the same of the same and the same and the same are same or same and the same are same or same and the same and the same are same or same and the same are same or same and the same are same and the same are same ar of receipts over expenditures of \$9.914, 453.66. During that fiscal year \$40,570, 467.98 were paid upon the public debt, which had been reduced since March 1, 1889, \$259,076,890, and the annual interest charge decreased \$11.684,576.60. The receipts of the government from all sources, during the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1893, amounted to \$461,716,561, and its expenditures to \$459,374,887, showing an excess of receipts over expenditures of \$2,341,674. Since that time the receipts of no fiscal year, and with but few exceptions of no month of any fiscal year, have exceeded the expenditures. The receipts of the government from all

> "I don't care to vote, of course I don't, but if female suffrage will lessen female 'sufferage,' I hope it will pass. It makes my heart bleed to read about these heartless men deceiving and be-traying foolish young girls who trusted them-what a pitiful scene it was-that ruined girl following that man and his bride into the parlor cars in Atlanta, and in her presence upbraiding him with his infamy. And just look around all over this country at the young married women who have been abandoned by their unprincipled husbands, and now have to work and toil and almost beg for a living for themselves and their little ones. If a jury of women could try these deceivers and these faithless husbands they would be sent to the chaingang, where they belong. If a young man embez-zles some rich man's money and runs away, the judge and the grand jury and the newspapers make an awful fuss about it and send telegrams all over the country to catch him, but if he ruins a woman and breaks her heart and makes a wreck of her life it is hushed up and nothing is done. I am not a woman's-rights woman. She has That is a fact, and my opinion is

> that her wrongs never will be avenged until she is not only empowered to vote, but also to hold office in schoolrooms and in the government of the towns and villages. The age of gal-lantry and chivalry toward women has passed. This is the unfeeling age, and woman has to shift for herself. Thirty years ago she worked at seventeen occupations, and now at 130, and gets about half price for her labor—half the price that the menget who do it no better. I am ashamed of my sex, and I never buy a shirt for 50 cents but what I remember that a poor wo-

man made it—made it in some garret — worked all day and part of the night, "With fingers weary and worn With eyelids heavy and red."

And yet these lords of creation pre-tend that if woman is allowed to vote she will get down in the slums and lose her purity. She is down in the slums now and would get out if she could. I know women who are at work for less than a dollar a day and have to support themselves and their little children out of it, while their rich employers sit high up in the churches and say amen and amen to the preachers pray-ers. I know women, good women, ac-complished women, whom men have ruined by neglect or abandonment, and

all they can do is suffer and be silent I know women whose unprincipled husbands have been breaking their marriage vows ever since they made them, and still they pass and repass in the community as gentlemen. But Now it is said that although the wo-

man's suffrage bill has passed the house of commons by a large majority, it will be ignonimously killed in the louse of lords—why I should like to know? The lords are not a senate whose age and dignity might correct basty or unwise legislation, but they are a pampered purse-proud nobility. The root of them are and many of them have as many wives as Brigham Young ever did. But the time is near at hand when women will be enfranchis-ed in more ways than one. The laws of marriage and divorce are better in England now than ours. They are governed by the church—by the ecclesiastical courts. It takes no little time to get married. The matter is considered and discussed openly and freely before an engagement is made. reely before an engagement is made. t must be a union that is fit to be made

and the bans must be published and announced from the pulpit for so many Sabbaths previous to the ceremony. Consequently there are no clop ments -no runaways, and of course not so many divorces. Inconsiderate young people used to runaway to Greens Green in Scotland and he would be Green, in Scotland, and be married by an old Scotch blacksmith, but those marriages were declared illegal about forty years ago, and now it is a crime to be married anywhere save in the church after the bans have been pubchurch after the bans have been published. Great solemnity is attached to the ceremony. But here anybody can run away with anybody's daughter and be married by anybody in any sort of fashion and get loose whenever they take a notion. The whole business of marriage and divorce should be remodelled by Congress and made uniform in all the States. It makes me sick to read those divorce advertiseform in all the States. It makes me sick to read those divorce advertise-ments of lawyers in Chicago: "Di-vorces obtained without attracting attention." But the devil is now un-

The editor who was told that his last article was as clear as mud quite promptly replied, "Well, that covers the ground."

chained and the thousand years are

BULL ARP.

The Cotton Growers' Protective Association

FARMERS ADVISED TO DIVER-SIFY CROPS

The Area Devoted to Cotton Will Yield More Profitable Returns-The Kind of Protection Needed for Southern Farmers.

The following address was issued by the Cotton Growers' Protective Association, which met a few days ago in Augusta, Ga., and which advises the growing of food crops as the surest road to agricultural prosperity in the South:

To the Cotton Growers of America :

The Cotton Growers' Protective Association of America, in convention ass ibled at Augusta, Ga., on this 15th March, 1897, again come to you with an urgent appeal for co-operative action in planting the crop for 1897. It is a matter of extreme congratulation that the appeal made to you in 1895 and 1896 was so generally responded to and that the crop of 1895, made upon the diminished acreage, did have the effect of greatly increasing the prices of cotton. The crop of 1895, though estimated to be 3,400,000 bales short of the crop of 1894, was in the markets of the world worth more by nearly \$30, then a resident of Cleveland. President is a matter part in the presidential campaigns of 1876, 1880 and 1884, being then a resident of Cleveland. the world worth more by nearly \$30,-000,000. In the face of this result to abandon the idea of diminished acreabandon the idea of diminished acreage would be to sound the retreat in the face of victory. It is the consenus of opinion among the best thinkers that if by any means the cotton crop of America should be held within the limits of 8,000,000 to 9,000,000, bales per annum for five years, the people of these southern states would be the richest and most proper sequential. of these southern states would be the richest and most prosperous agricultural people in the world. How can this be brought about? The answer is with you. We appeal to your self interest and patriotism to do all in your terest and patriotism to do all in your terest and patriotism to be appealed in your terest and patriotism to do all in your terest and patriotism to be a production of

power to keep down the production of the staple. Do not abandon the ground you have won. Fight on upon the lines laid down, make the cotton states self-supporting, put more land in clover and grasses for your hogs to run on, diversify your crops, and when you have done all this the area devoted to cotton will yield more profitable returns than if you sought to increase the number of your bales. While the reduction of the acreage to be planted in cotton for the sole purpose of reducing the size of the crop may be impracticable the increase of area plant. practicable, the increase of area plant ed in food crops must inevitably bring prosperity to cotton growers, irrespec-tive of the size of the cotton crop There has never been a time in the history of our section of the country that a movement looking to the increased production of corn, hay, oats hogs and other food crops, was so im-

portant and necessary. It is felt by the most thoughtful men that we are entering upon a year of great uncertainties, and that even a small cotton crop may fail to give adequate returns for its production. The mutterings of a storm are disturbing values and unsettling all business calculations. The prudent man will trim his sails to meet it. With the commerce of the country interrupted by war—and war may come—cotton would be unsalable except at nominal prices. Every consideration, then, of patriotism, of self-interest and of pru-dence dictates that was advent at the dence dictates that you adhere strictly to the rule of diminished acreage. Earnest men are earnestly working to

lead you and to guide you into pros-perity. Do not let them labor in vain, but cheerfully and hopefully respond In conclusion, we desire to say to every cotton grower, whether his crop is ten bales or one thousand bales, see to it first that your place is self-sus-taining-and we mean by this to be sure you grow on the farm an abundance of corn, meat, hay, cats, pc.as, potatoes, etc., for all the people on the place, both white and colored. If the tenant will not produce these articles, sell them to him and keep the money in your own pocket, in place of send ing it out of the country. When you have done this, or provided for it, grow

what cotton you can.

If every farmer or planter in the cotton growing district will make this his rule of action, and live up to it conscientiously, it will accomplish the result we so much desire of making us all prosperous and happy, whether your cotton, which will be a surplus erop, sell for a high or low price. We would urge you again to make sure first of a cheap, home grown living for all the people and all the animals on the place, and then make what cotton

you can.
We address our argument to each in dividual farmer. Every farmer may measurably control the cost of produc-

ng his cotton. Let each individual farmer resolve in his own mind and without regard to what others may do, to cut down the cost of producing his cotton. By confining his area to the best fields and to the best parts of his field; by concentrating his skill, his industry and fertilizers on a smaller area he will produce his cotton cheaper. Every farmer knows that the oetter the land the better preparation and cultivation the more liberal the amount of wel balanced fertilizers he applies per acre the less will be the cost per pound of cotton.

Put only the best land in cotton and corn and the poorer lands in rye, peas, etc. This will certainly reduce your crop product in the aggregate, but it will much more reduce the cost.

So that, in any event, whatever others may do, you will be all right.

-Judge Markey, who has been in Columbia since the session of the General Assembly, proposes to pub ish during the coming 'summer a book of about 150 pages, which he will call South Carolina Lost and Found. The work is intended to give a history of political affairs in this State from 1865 to 1877, with special reference to the Reconstruction period, with which Judge Mackey has every reason to be entirely familiar, having taken quite a hand in bringing about the settlement of the troubles. He says that in his book he will "with the scimetar of truth share off some tall plumes." He will start out with the Secession period and take the position that there was no need for this State to have pre-cipitated the war, and that many of her best and ablest sons were against the Secession movement. Judge Macthe Secession movement. key expects to have his book before the public about the month of August, and will soon go on to New York to arrange for its publication.

-Allowing the horse to stand hab itually upon a dry board floor often causes the horse's hoof to become brittle. A linseed meal poultice is best remedy.

-Only 70 years have elasped since the first railway in the world was fin-ished. During that comparatively brief period 400,000 miles have been constructed.

Laurens

Places in the Diplomatic Service.

The President has made the following nominations to be ambassadors expandingly and ministers plenipotenraordinary and ministers plenipotening nominations to be ambassadors ex-traordinary and ministers plenipoten-tiary of the United States: John Hay, of Washington, D. C., to Great Britain, and Horace Porter, of New York, to France, and Honry White, of Rhode Island, is to be secretary of the embassy at London. Messrs. Hay and Porter receive a salary of \$17,500 a year. dent Lincola appointed him assistant secretary and kept him in that capacity throughout his administration. He also acted as Lincoln's adjutant and aide-de-camp and was breveted lieutenant colonel. Entering diplomatic circles in the sixties, he was at various times charge at Vienna, first secretary at Paris, and secretary

an active part in the presidential cam-paigns of 1876, 1880 and 1884, being then a resident of Cleveland. President Hayes appointed him First Assistant Secretary of State, which post he filled for nearly three years. Since his retirement from office Colonel Hay has resided chiefly in Washington city. where he occupies a palatial home on LaFayette avenue and has devoted himself to literature with the greatest success, some of his best known works being "Pike County Ballads," "Cas-tillian Days," and a history of Lincoln written in collaboration with John Nicolay.

Colonel Hay has also been a frequent contributor to the highest class of periodicals, and to him has been ascribed the authorship of the anonymous novel, "The Breadwinners," which caused such agitation in labor circles.

General Horace Porter comes of revolutionary stock, his grandfather, Andrew Porter, being one of Washington's most valued officers.

General Porter's father was David Rittenhouse Porter, at one time Gov-ernor of Pennsyvania and a prosperous manufacturer. Horace Porter was born just sixty years ago in Huntingdon, Pa. He was well educated in his own State, at Harvard and finally at West Point. Soon after his graduation from the military academy he was assign d to duty in the South. He was assign d to duty in the South. He was assign d to duty in the South. He was an ordinance expert, so most of his work was in the military service on the individual and community be the better for it. Of course the the staffs of McClellan, Rosecrans and cipline and training of a good school

to General Porter and made him Assistant Secretary of War while he himself filled the secretaryship. He sur-rendered his army commission in 1873 and plunged into active business, be-moted by the Presidents ever since. and plunged into active business, being first president of the West Shore railroad, vice president of the Pullman Car Company, and associating bimself with other great corporations in a directive capacity. He is well known

a reappointment, as Mr. White had held this office for eight years pre-vious to Mr. Cleveland's last adminis He has been in London most of the time since his displacement and the fact was brought out after his nomination that he had rendered Mr. Olney important service in the recent Venezuelan negotiations. The present secretary, Mr. Roosevelt, resigned some

MISSED A CROWN.

An Interesting Chapter of South Carolina History. Boston Education Magazine.

metto State.

The Middletons are not only one of the most distinguished, but also one of the oldest of the Carolina families. An account of them and their estates reads developed: Massachusettes has for almost like the history of some noble family of England. Before the English had been permanently settled in the colony a dozen years, we find Edward Midddleton a member of the counci under the Lords Proprietors. born in England and inherited a large property. His son, Arthur Middleton. readed the revolution which threw off the rule of the Lords Proprietors and placed the province directly under the protection of the English crown. was afterwards Governor of the province. Henry Middleton, son of Arthur, was president of the Continental Con-

The most famous of the Middleton was Arthur, who was a signer of the Declaration of Independence. He was the son of Henry (just mentionea), and He received his education in England. In 1779 he took the fie'd in defense of Charleston, and the following year he at a distance of ten miles. was made a prisoner, but was after-wards exchanged. At one time during the revolution he declined the Govern His home, the Middleton Place (which was in the low country of South Caro-lina) has been destroyed, but the fol-lowing "pen picture" of the grounds, published in 1888, will give the reader an idea of what a fine place it must have been:

'The old gates with their massive pillars stand intact, but of the homestead itself only the chimneys and parts of the walls remain. At Middleton Place, an Englishman would feel at home even to-day. Many of the old terraces and hedges remain as they were a century ago, and the ample grounds, which are tolerably well kept, have a decidedly English air. place is still in possession of the Middleton family.'

During the present century this family has furnished one governor to South Carolina; that was Henry Middleton, son of the "signer;" he filled the office 1810-12, after which he served in Congress, and was also, for several years, minister to Russia. When a —White-wine vinegar can be made young man, he traveled a good deal in by adding five gallons of rainwater to death occurred in 1846.

Gov. Benjamin F. Perry were both members of the Union party during the stirring times of nullification, and Gov. ernor Perry, in his delightful "Remi-niscences" (which can well be read with pleasure and profit by many others besides South Carolinians), has given

THE DIPLOMATIC POSITIONS.

The Appointment of Ministers to England and France—The Best Places in the Diplomatic Service.

Is a pleasant sketch of Governor Middleton Middleton, with whom he was well acquainted. Among other things he says:

"Governor Middleton told me that Places in the Diplomatic Service."

"Governor Middleton told me that AGE."

of General of the Interior to his seat on the throne of France. He was on terms of intimacy with him while hewas General of the Interior, and was in the habit of visiting his family. At one period of their acquaintance he received encouragement to address his step-daughter. 'Little did I then think,' said Governor Middleton, 'that she would ever be a queen."

Am I not right in saying that Gov-ernor Middleton missed a crown? Who can doubt that, had he married Napoleon's step-daughter, he would after-wards have been made king of some European country by the great warrior, and he would undoubtedly have made a wise and just ruler. We may supa wise and just ruler. We may suppose, however, that as Governor of an American State he was probably hap-pier than he would have been as king f some European country.
McDonald Furman.

Ramsey, S. C.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

The Opinion of an Experienced Observer as to the Benefits to be Derived.

S. Rowell in the Piedmont Sun. Too much importance cannot ttached to the value of a Free Public library in a town, and especially in a cotton mi'g town." We are behind the times in this respect in the Old Palmetto State. If we want to take a ront rank among the progressive tates, we must move forward. Agriculture and manufactures cannot achieve the best result, with a lot of ignoramuses as employers and employ-ed. The masses must be fairly well

educated in order for any community to stand abreast with the best. It is good moral policy for a town to establish a public library: it is good pusiness policy for a manufacturing company to found a free library for the benefit of its employees. The youthful minds during the formative period will seek in almost any direction for that which will satiate the longing felt within. If parents or friends at this time will wisely direct the expanding intellect along the line of reading good and useful books, the will be formed instead of bad ones, and the staffs of McClellan, Rosecrans and Grant, where he earned the reputation as a gallant and fearless fighter, as is shown by his brevets. He served in the Chickamauga and Wilderness campaigns and was in the first assault on Charleston, where he was wounded. General Grant was greatly attached to General Porter and mude him Assistance. In the very beginning of the history of the place the directors of the company made provisions for its establishment with other great corporations in a directive capacity. He is well known in the field of literature, being an author of repute and much sought for as a public speaker.

The appointment of Mr. Henry White to be secretary of American or beast in Great Britain is practically portant subjects, will in the course of a year bring the student a vast amount

of valuable information. We would like to see our young men and women taking more advantage of the privilege our library holds out to them. They would be the gainers personally and indirectly would benefit the town. We would also like to see the State of South Carolina have a

free library in every town.

As we said in the beginning the importance of such an institution cannot be too highly estimated. how this subject is looked upon in other sections of our country. In the New England States, two libraries, that of Havard College and the Boston public library, each contains more volumes than are contained in all the libraries combined in the State of Vir-South Carolina has had one proment man of whom it may be said, "He missed a crown." An account of him there are 956 Libraries of 1,000 volumes. The city of Boston approvolumes. The city of Boston approvolumes. priated this year \$200,000 to her library. In Massachusetts, of the 353 towns and cities, 328 bave free public libraries. Comparing the different States the every 100 population 257 volumes New York 74, Pennsylvania 51, Mary land 89, Virginia 22, Kentucky and Louisiana each 20, South Carolina 18, council Tennessee and Georgia each 15, He was Alabama 8, Texas 4. In 1891, the libraries in the New England States had 7,219,124 volumes. In the Southern States 2,250,212 volumes.

Here in Piedmont we have a library of nearly 2,500 volumes, or seventy one volumes to every one hundred population. So it will be seen that our town is pretty well up in the scale.

All we want to do is to use the books well.

-The air is so clear in the Arctic egions that conversation can be carried on easily by persons two miles apart. It has also been asserted on good authority that at Gibraltar the human voice has been distinctly heard

-A gentleman traveling in Persia says he has been in a town where the bells ring for prayer five times a day, and business men rush out of thei offices to the churches, leaving their places of business alone and unlocked, and nobody ever has a thing stolen.

-French papers insist that the roller-boat of M. Bazin, which is to cross the ocean in three days, is likely to be a success, and that it will glide over the water as smoothly as a carriage along a road. A trial trip on the Chames is promised shortly.

-Jack rabbits are so numerous some parts of Colorado that there is an annual "round-up" to exterminate the pests. At the round-up held the week before Christmas at Lamar 15,000 rabbits were killed. -A whale recently captured

arctic waters was found to have imbedded in its side a harpoon that longed to a whaling vessel that had been out of service nearly half a century.

Europe, and for some time during the 10 pounds of mashed raisins, and letrench revolution was in France. His ting it stand in a warm place for a -It is thought the output of the steel rail companies this year will be in the neighborhood of 2,000,000 tons,

or fully three times the output of 1896. -"What is it that causes the saltness of the ocean?" asked a teacher. "It is the codfish," said a little girl.

Advertiser.

DO NOT INCREASE THE ACRE-

The Cotton Goods Trade Exceedingly Dull-Food and Forage Crops Should be Ample-Make Cotton a Surplus Grop.

The following letter in reference to decreasing the production of cotton and increasing the production of food supplies is sent out for the information of cotton planters. Coming from an expert statistician on the production and consumption of cotton, it emphasizes the conclusions and justifies the action taken by the American Cotton Growers' Protective Association, which met in Augusta on the 15th inst.

New York, March 12, 1897. Hon. Patrick Walsh, Editor Augusta

My Dear Sir: Though our present cotton crop will probably not exceed 8,500,000 bales and the stocks in the world's markets and mills at the end of the season may be even below the moderate figures at its commencement, the fact remains that cotton is half a cent per pound lower than a year ago.

His Troubles and Perplexities As Seen by the Maiden Sister.

The cotton goods trade is exceeding-Many American mills are running on short time. My friend Mr. Thomas Ellison, of Liverpool, thinks the Euro-pean mills will consume no more cotton the present season than during last season. In view of the injury to British trade from the plague and famine in India it is, in my opinion, even doubtful if last season's consumption will be actually maintained. In Bomba, the cotton mills are practically, closed, thus releasing more cotton for export to Europe than had been estimated. It is to be added that the cotton crop in India will be larger than the estimates of several months ago. Our Congress is about to meet in extra session to discuss a general revision of the tariff, and the uncertainty as to the outcome of the matter will depress every kind of business. The session may be a long one, and it is by no means certain that any kind of a tariff bill will be passed as the Republicans do not control the Senate. The depression in business on account of uncertainty in regard to the tariff would then continue into 1898. These are the conditions which confront the Southern farmers upon the eve of planting time this spring. It seems to me they indicate with a clearness which admits of no question that every farmer should first make provision for ample food and forage crops before

considering the matter of cotton acre-In July last, when the crop prospects were so favorable that many people predicted a yield of 10,000,000 bales, the price for November delivery declined to nearly 61-8 cents, while middling cotton on the spot sold at 71-16 cents. Had not the severe drought occurred, the crop might easily have reached 9,500,000 to 10,000,000 bales and this addition to the supply would probably have resulted in lower prices by fully one and a half cents per pound than are current today. I think middling cotton would have sold at five and a half (51-2) cents in New York and this would have been disastrous to Southern farmers and a serious injury to the entire country on account of the I do not believe that one planter in a thousand can produce cotton so cheaply that he can sell it on the basis of five and a half (5 pound for middling in New York and get back even the cost of production, to say nothing of any profit.

It is well for our Southern to remember that the cost of produc- eagerly,tion exerts no influence whatever on the immediate market value of any commodity. The present price is gove erned almost entirely by the existing conditions of supply and demand. When commodities are sold for less than the average cost of production, that fact will necessarily curtail production, and a diminution in price Farmers, however, cannot wait for these processes as they are generally compelled to sell their crops promptly

n order to meet their obligations. It is true that corn is considerably lower in Chicago than it was a year ago, while cats and provisions are a ifle lower and wheat and flour a litle higher. The reduction in the price some of these articles, however, should be no reason for planting more cotton and less grain, for of what avail to the Southern farmer would be the low price of grain and provisions if his cotton had to be sold for so little as to eave him no surplus money in which to buy these things? The world does day, I'll never, never marry you." not need as much American cotton as "Oh, Em, don't be hard on me!" can be grown on the present acreage. If all Southern farmers would raise their own food and forage crops (including meat and farm animals) and make of cotton asurplus or "money crop" they would have in their own ands the amplest protection against low prices for cotton, inasmuch as the overproduction of the staple would be avoided and they would never be forced to sell their cotton in the periods of its greatest depression. Yours very ruly, ALFRED B. SHEPPERSON.

----THE PENSION MUDDLE.

The New Act Will Cause Pensioners to Wait for Their Money. olumbia State.

The new pension law has had the comptroller general scratching his head and wondering where the State board of pensions is at. There are some provisions in it that would puzzle anyone. As a result, even construing the act as it was evidently intended it should pass, the pensioners of the State will of necessity be compelled to

wait possibly till August, before they can get their money, and it is no fault of the authorities charged with the ex-In the first place, in the section providing for the time for the payment of the pensions the figures fixing the year were left reading "1896" instead of "1897." Of course the intention is clear, but unless the law is construed in that light nothing at all can be paid until the General Assembly meets

Then township boards have been provided for and other complex machinery to the approval of applications. There are something over 1,000 townships in the State. It would be a ships in the State. It would be a physical impossibility to get the boards organized in every township in the State and have the applications go through all the machinery provided in time for the payment of the pensions by the 15th of June, as is provided. Comptroller General Norton, who has had much experience with this pen-sion matter, declares that leaving everything else aside it would be im possible to get the warrants out to the pensioners in the several counties be-fore the middle of July or August.

again.

He is going to prepare a set of in-structions and rules governing the organization of the township and county boards and simplifying the law so that they can work in a uniform manner, but does not think that this

will facilitate matters very much. He will endeavor to remodel the former blanks in such a way that they can be In addition to these troubles, there

is the matter of the formation of new counties. Scarcely one of them will be in working order in time for the township boards even to be formed. There is but one way left open for the pensioners in these counties to get their money along with the others, and the others cannot get theirs until it is known how many there are in the several new counties, inasmuch as the amounts have to be pro-rated. This is by a loose construction of the law, requiring the boards in the several tions of those residing in the new counties or leaving the pensioners in the new counties out altogether, letting the Legislature help them when it re

A BACKWARD LOVER.

convenes. .

Sister Em came into the kitchen and exclaimed excitedly '
'Oh, Matilda, Joe is going to ask pa

for me, today."
"Humph!" said I, for I never lose
a chance to snub her, for she is always

sneering at me for being an old maid. Now I am all practicality and rush and hurry, and moving from morning til night my bands are big and red and rough; I am stiff and long and angular; all the graces of my girlhood

have been scrubbed, washed and iron ed out of me.

But Em's different. She is one of the lolling, languishing kind. can simper and giggle, and "Oh, don't John-ah," in a "Oh, do John-ah" tone of voice, and she has had beaux without number ever since she was born.
After she had been deluged with overs of all nationalities, she caught a real Yankee, not one of the sharp,

driving, money-making kind, but a gentle, soft-headed, tender-hearted fellow. He never failed to put off tomorrow what ought to be done to-day.
Well, as I started out to say, Em had announced that Joe was going to ask for her, and I had "humphed" in my most in redulous style; for during the last five years Joe has had periodical

spasms of courage.
Full nineteen hundred times he had made up his mind to ask pa for Em. and then begged off. I could never understand why it was such a bugbear or pa would have been perfectly de Before the great freeze in Florida the annual orange crop was from eight to ten million boxes. The estimate for this season is 70,000 boxes. Then he would brace up again and promise to do it, but it always ended in his postponing it indefinitely.

So I said "humph!" as aggravatingly as possible. That made her furious.
"You act as if you thought he wouldn't ask pa."

At that moment Joe unluckily came into the kitchen. Em, hadn't you just as soon wait intil next Sunday? "No, I wouldn't," she cried, an-

grily.
"But, Em, by that time I might get

le to get a "raise. 'Yes," Em answered bitterly, raise has been your excuse for the last four years; why don't you ask permission to put it off until after the Nash

ville exposition?"

He evidently did not notice the cut ing sarcasm of her voice, for he said

Why, that's a good idea; suppowe wait until then, so you can be at town nome to help your folks entertain your Em was in such a rage that she ilmost cried, but instead she fairly

screamed .-Joe, do you want to marry me?" "Of course I do," he responded blacidly, "or else I wouldn't come to see you."
"Well, then, you must ask pa, for

am not going to get married without his consent."
"But I am going to ask him."

When? 'Now, see here, Em, do be reason able; he knows what I come here for, and, of course, he is willing, or he wouldn't let me come

When are you going to ask pa: she repeated angrily.
"Why-ah, I don't know-ah!" Well, now, I'll tell you one thing Joseph, that if you don't ask him to

You march up this minute, si and ask pa for me, or I'll never marry you!" and she rushed out of the roor llung open the piano and began to play so violently, that I thought every co in the instrument would snap.

Joe looked at me appealingly

"What do you think I had better "Go upstairs and see pa," I replied.
"Do you suppose she'll feel better
in a few minutes?" he inquired anx-

iously.
"No, she is in dead carnest, and i you want her-"
"I'll have to ask for her, I suppose he answered, with a disconsolate sigh I couldn't help feeling sorry for him, for he looked as dejected as if he were going to the stake "It won't be very hard," I ventured

to say.
"Oh, it's a terrible thing to do." His lips grew white, the perspiration stood out on his forehead, and he was shaking from head to foot with a nervous chill.

So he went upstairs, and was gon bout five minutes, and then they both came tearing out into the kitchen where they danced, and embraced, and kissed each other like two mad creatures. She was so proud of him, and he was so glad he had the thing off his nands, that they nearly strangled each other.

times how he felt when he went up stairs, and what pa said, how ma looked, and what they thought, and how they acted, and all about it, until I was forced to come to the conclusion if this is the Nineteenth century style of "asking pa," I am glad no one ever asked for me.

-It is related that about a year ago house in Wichita, Kan., was entered by a burglar and a pocketbook containing some money was stolen. Recently the owner of the purse received a letter through the mails inclosing a \$10 bill and the following note: "A year ago I stole a pocket-book from you containg \$60. I have been sick and remorse has been grawing at my heart, so I send you \$10. When reheart, so I send you \$10. When remorse gnaws again I will send you some more. Burglar."

-A good railway engine will travel

WAYSIDE GATHERINGS.

Bits of Humor and Nuggets of Truth for the Multitude.

-Satan does not object to our holiness if we are proud of it. -Mexico is the richest mineral

country in the world, not excepting -The queen has 60 pianos at Os-borne, Windsor and Buckingham Pal-

-No man has any better religion

than that which he actually exhibits in his daily life.

-The worst troubles lose their keen

-Owing to the dry, cold atmosphere,

edge when we insist on getting some good out of them.

not a single infectious disease is known -Michigan produces one-fifth of the ron of this country, mining nine milion tons a year.

-About \$2,000,000 worth of American whisky is annually sent abroad, most of it from Baltimore. -American colleges received last

year gifts of money and property amounting to \$16,000,000. -Keep your conscience clear in the sight of God, and you need not fear

what men may do to harm you. -It is said that people who drink a great deal of water have rheuma-tism less than the non-water drinker. -The United States and Germany

are the only great powers that have postal savings banks. —Politics should be treated as any injurious insects under entomological rules and well sprayed with common ense.

-There is a movement in Colorado to erect a monument to the memory of Zebulon Pike, the first explorer of Pike's Peak. -The tone of a piano is best when the instrument is not near a wall. An

-To prevent corrosion of collar buttons by contact with the neck, a recently patented button has the back made of cork.

even temperature should be maintain

ricultural pursuits is said to be due to the use of primitive implements of the time of Julius Casar. -As early as the time of Alexander

-Spain's wretched showing in ag-

II of Scotland, a man who let weeds go to seed on a farm was declared to be the king's enemy. -Before the great freeze in Florida

-Bread as a daily article of food is used by only about one-third of the 1,500,000,000 people that constitute the

present population of the earth. -Claus Spreckels is building a \$6, 000,000 house in San Francisco. In it there will be six bathrooms that will cost \$50,000, no two of which will be

-An error of a thousandth part of an inch in astronomical records may mean a difference of 200,000,000,000 miles in the distance of a star.

disturbance in foreign exchanges, which would have been caused by so great a shrinkage in the value of our state of the disturbance in foreign exchanges, which would have been caused by so great a shrinkage in the value of our state of the disturbance in the value of our state of the disturbance in the value of our state of the disturbance in the value of our state of the value o pointment of a loving Father, why

then he is in a happy state. -The man who comes to the station two minutes behind time, and sees the train scudding out at the other end, derives no satisfaction from the proverb, "Better late than never."

-Aunty-I feel provoked to think that you and your mamma the other day and went to the restaurant instead of coming to our house for dinner. Why didn't you come? Little Nephew—We was hun-

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Notes About Men and Things In and Around Washington. The dome alone c' the capitol cost \$1,250,000.

Turnbull painted the four best his torical pictures in the capitol rotunda The state, war and navy building was begun in 1871, and cost \$10,000,0 to complete. The new naval observatory at Wash-

one of the finest scientific plants in the world. Genera infield Scott fathered the ne, which was established soldiers' L by Congress in 1857.

The Crawford bronze door of the Senate wing weighs 14,000 pounds, and cost nearly \$57,000. Ainsworth R. Spofford has been li

arian of Congress since 1864. His salary is \$1,000 per year. The Congress of the United States has met annually in Washington since November 17, 1800.

The hall of the House of Representatives is the largest legislative as sembly room in the world. The columns of the eastern portico

of the capitol are each solid blocks sandstone, thirty feet high. A marbl solumn surrounded by a tatue of Lincoln stands in front of the

district courthouse. It costs about \$100,000 a year to run the white house, exclusive of the pres

ident's salary of \$50,000. Seventh, Ninth, Fourteenth, F and G streets are rivaling Pennsylvania avenue as business locations.

The bronze propeller of his famous flagship, the Hartford, was cast into the statue of Admiral Farragut. The Rogers bronze doors at the main

entrance of the capitol tell the history of Columbus, and cost \$28,000. The capitol rotunda is ninety-five feet six inches in diameter, and from floor to canopy measures 183 feet three inches.

The terraces of the capitol were only completed in 1891, the total cost of the building footing up \$14,455,000 The treasury building was completed in 1869, at a cost of \$8,000,000. It is the largest government department. Pennsylvania avenue, paved with asphalt, and 160 feet wide, is consider-

ed the finest parade street in the world. John Quincy Adams designed the allegorical group, "The Genius of America," on the eastern portico of the capitol. The Society of the Army of the Ten-

nessee erected the \$50,000 statue to General James B. McPherson in Mc-Pherson square.
The postoffice department building was erected in 1839, and extended in 1855, at a cost of over \$2,000,000.

The reclaimed Potomac flats will add about 1,000 acres to the mail, extending down the river in the form of